



The Church Jesus is Building is Aware of Their Need For Each Other

Ice Breaker: Fall is coming very quickly!! What do you look forward to in the fall?

- Set the Stage:

Read Together: 1 Timothy 3:14-15 (NIV) and Acts 5:42 (NIV)

The places that the early church met are defined like this:

- Temple courts - Large gathering
- House to house - Small group ministry

Now Read: Genesis 2:18 (NKJV)

We are not meant to live alone. We are part of a larger family because God saw that we needed others.

Far too often, we hit eject when we don't like something and decide to move on. We are a family. Family sticks together and works things out. (See Matthew 18:15-18)

Discuss:

Tell about a time that things got difficult and you wanted to leave the church family.
Did you follow Matthew 18 in your exit?
What have you learned from that situation in your life?

- Small groups remind us we are a part of the Family of God.

Read Together: 2 Corinthians 6:18 (NIV); Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 (NLT); Romans 12:15 (NIV); 1 Corinthians 12:26 (NLT)

Discuss:

Jesus creates us to be a family.

What is the hardest part of being in the family of believers?

What do you love most about being in the family of believers?

- Small groups allow for care to be given and to be received.

Read Together: Acts 2:45 (NIV)

Discuss:

Do you struggle more with caring for others or receiving care when you need it?

- Small groups help you become more mature in your faith.

Read Together: 1 Peter 2:2 (NASB) and 1 Corinthians 3:2-3 (NLT)

Have you ever said, “I need sermons with more meat?” Me TOO!!!

Discuss:

Pastor Jason helped us define what “MEAT” actually looks like! Discuss the following thoughts within your group:

1. Meat is not just information you have never heard before.
2. Meat is when we stop letting the sinful nature control us and let the spiritual milk cut to our hearts.
3. Meat is not what it IS, It’s what it Does! When we are cut to our hearts, we get to choose to either complain, quarrel and let non-essential things divide us; OR we can let the spirit guide us into all truth. (Maturity)
4. Maturity is not measured by how much you know, but rather, by how much we are allowing the word of God to change us.

- Small group is a place you find allies.

Read Together: Ephesians 4:29 (NLT)

Discuss:

Are you more of a Critical or more encouraging? Process that with your group. If there isn’t enough time, take it to the Lord after group!

Process this statement: “It matters who said it over what is said.” How do you see that to be true? How is it untrue?

Read Together: Ecclesiastes 4:12 (NLT)

Discuss:

Do you tend to stand alone or lean into other believers for help and encouragement?

Pray together:

Father, you gave Adam a Helper because it is not good for us to be alone. We need each other...even when we don’t always LIKE each other. Teach us to value the body of believers. Teach us to lean in when we want to run away. Show us how to handle conflict according to your word. Help us to encourage one another daily. When we want to complain, show us the situation through your eyes. Please help us to walk in the way of love and to be MATURE. Help us not demand our own way, but rather, yield to you and allow you to change us into your likeness. Help us to love one another so that the world will know that we belong to YOU! Lead us to the people you want us to come alongside as allies! For your name and your renown! In Jesus’ name, Amen!